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Media Advisory

Arapahoe County to celebrate grand opening of the new DA's Office *Commissioners, District Attorney to cut the ribbon Oct. 22*

CENTENNIAL, CO --- On Thursday, the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners will join 18th Judicial District Attorney Carol Chambers to celebrate the grand opening of the new District Attorney's Office.

Commissioners Susan Beckman, Jim Dyer, Rod Bockenfeld, Pat Noonan and Frank Weddig, along with Chambers, will cut a ribbon to mark the opening of the District Attorney's Office, as part of Arapahoe County's \$13.8 million project to address the space needs of the courts.

This event will be held 4 to 6 p.m. Oct. 22 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. at the District Attorney's new office, 6450 S. Revere Parkway, Centennial, CO.

Guests will be able to tour the new facility and enjoy light refreshments.

Arapahoe County, like most counties in Colorado and across the nation, is grappling with a shortage of court and jail space. Since 2005, Arapahoe County has been working to determine how best to meet the space needs of the courts and jails, and to accommodate an additional four new judges.

Thursday's ceremony will celebrate another phase in a \$13.8 million courts and judicial project that by eventually will provide 10 additional courtrooms, one expanded courtroom, a new jury room, and improved court efficiency by consolidating most court functions within the Arapahoe County Justice Center – all without increasing taxes.

Last February, Arapahoe County completed the first phase, which added three new courtrooms to the Justice Center. Construction is currently underway on an expanded courtroom and jury assembly room in the Courthouse. The final phase, which includes the addition of six new courtrooms on the second floor of the Administration II Building on the Justice Center campus, also is underway and is expected to be completed by fall 2010.

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